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REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the rejections are requested. The amendments above are submitted to place the application in condition for allowance. Claims 4, 5, 7-10, 15, 16, 22 and 28-31 are amended upon entry of the amendment. No new matter has been added. Claims 32, 33, 35, 36 and 45 were previously indicated to be allowable.

The Rejections and Objections

Claims 1, 3, 12, 14, 18-21, 23-27, 34 and 37-44 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 4, 5, 7-10, 15, 16, 22, 28-31 have been amended to address the objections for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. These claims, as amended, are no longer dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. The Examiner previously indicated that these claims would be allowable if so rewritten and as such they are all now believed to be allowable. Also, a few of these claims were made dependent upon otherwise allowable claims.

The amendments are believed to obviate the Examiner's §102(b) rejection, and this rejection should therefore be withdrawn. Applicant reserves the right to submit a continuation application with respect to the subject matter of the cancelled claims and unclaimed subject mater prior to final disposition of the present application.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application and claims are requested. It is believed that all of the remaining claims are in condition for allowance, which is earnestly requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

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However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 502023.

Respectfully submitted,

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